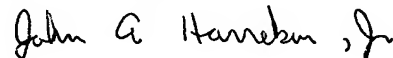


existence of independent and distinct inventions, (35 U.S.C. 121); and (2) that the search and examination of the entire application cannot be made without serious burden (M.P.E.P. 803). Applicants submit that a combined search for Groups II.1 (claim 120 and II.2 (claim 13) would not pose a serious burden on the Examiner because both groups are drawn to subject matter belonging to class 707. Importantly, there is no allegation that a separate search would be necessary to uncover art relating to both claims. As such, Applicants submit that the restriction requirement is not proper and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. An early notice of the same is earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 25, 2003

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-11 and 14-26.